

In re: Allen et al.
Serial No.: 10/706,641
Filed: November 12, 2003
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REMARKS

Applicants provide the present Amendment responsive to the Election/Restriction (hereinafter "Office Action") mailed February 28, 2005. The Office Actions states:

This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: Embodiment 1, shown in fig. 1, embodiment 2, shown in fig. 2, embodiment 3, shown in fig. 3A, embodiment 4, shown in fig. 3B, embodiment 5, shown in fig. 4, embodiment 6, shown in fig. 5 and embodiment 7, shown in fig. 9.

See Office Action, page 2, paragraph 1. As a preliminary note, Applicants would like to point out that the structures illustrated in Figures 1-5 and 9 are intended to illustrate various embodiments of devices that can be fabricated using methods according to various embodiments of the present invention. Accordingly, although the devices illustrated may have elements, layers, regions and the like that differ from one another, these devices may be fabricated using similar methods. For example, methods according to some embodiments of the present invention are discussed with respect to Figures 6A through 6I. Thus, Applicants submit that the method embodiments of the present invention may be illustrated in multiple figures and do not necessarily correspond to a single figure.

The following table contains a listing of the figures (species) identified in the Office Action and a listing of claims readable thereon:

Figure	Claims
1	129-133, 134-146, 153-155 and 190-191
2	129-133, 134-146, 152-155 and 190-191
3A	129-133, 134-148, 150, 152-168, 170 and 190-191
3B	129-133, 134-148, 150-168, 170 and 171-191
4	129-133, 134-146, 156-167, 175-177 and 190-191
5	153, 154 and 155
9	129-133, 134-146, 152-155, 186-188 and 190-191

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Applicants elect Claims 129-133, 134-148, 150-168, 170, 171-191, which read on embodiments of the present invention illustrated in Figure 3B. Applicants have withdrawn the remaining claims from consideration.

Claims 129-133 are generic to all embodiments of the present invention as all of the illustrated Figures have a passivation layer 60. As stated in the specification with respect to all of the embodiments of the present invention, Figure 4 illustrates a preferred embodiment of the passivation layer 60 of all embodiments of the present invention. *See e.g.*, Specification, page 15, lines 21-21. Similarly, since each of the embodiments include a passivation layer 60, the claims directed to the passivation layer in each of the claim sets are generic to all on which the claims in the set read. In particular, Claims 137-149 and 190-191 are generic to embodiments of the present invention illustrated in Figures 1, 2, 3A, 3B, 4 and 9, Claims 157 through 167 are generic to embodiments illustrated in Figures 3A, 3B and 4 and Claims 176-177 are generic to embodiments illustrated in Figures 3B and 4.

Similarly, Claims 153-155 are generic to embodiments of the present invention illustrated in Figures 1, 2, 3A, 3B, 5 and 9 as all of the illustrated Figures include a metallization layer 32. As stated in the specification with respect to all of the embodiments of the present invention, Figure 5 illustrates a preferred embodiment of the metallization layer 32 of all embodiments of the present invention. *See e.g.*, Specification, page 16, lines 26-27.

Finally, although aspects of the present invention recited in Claims 186-189 are only illustrated in Figure 9, these aspects apply to all embodiments of the present invention as stated in the specification at page 24, lines 3-8.

Accordingly, Applicants note that Claims 129-133, 134-146 and 190-191 are generic to embodiments of the present invention illustrated in Figures 1, 2, 3A, 3B, 4 and 9. Similarly, Claims 156-168 and 170 are generic to embodiments of the present invention illustrated in Figures 3A, 3B and 4. Thus, upon allowance of any one of these claims, Applicants respectfully request consideration and allowance of all of the claims that depend therefrom.

Applicants have amended the specification at page 22 and Claims 156 and 186 as set out above to correct inadvertent typographical errors therein.

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Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request examination and allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

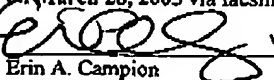


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CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8

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